



JET PROPULSION LABORATORY
CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NO.: MFS-2672-593438

FOR:

MARS VERY DEEP DRILLING CONCEPT STUDY

PROPOSALS ARE TO BE RECEIVED AT JPL NO LATER THAN:

Date: 11-19-2004

Local Time: 3:00 p.m.

COMMUNICATIONS IN REFERENCE TO THIS RFP

It is requested that any communication in reference to this RFP be in writing and directed to the attention of:

Name: Michele Schneider
Title: Subcontracts Manager

Mail Stop: 190-220
Phone: (818) 354-5605
Fax: (818) 354-3494
E-Mail: Michele.F.Schneider@jpl.nasa.gov

California Institute of Technology
Jet Propulsion Laboratory
4800 Oak Grove Drive
Pasadena, CA 91109-8099

Date of Issuance: 10-29-2004

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ATTACHMENTS TO THE SOLICITATION. See form JPL 2839 for a list of Attachments

This Section of this RFP consists of those forms and documents containing information applicable to this RFP. Group A Attachments must be completed and attached to your proposal. Group B Attachments consist of forms and documents for informational purposes only. *Both A and B Attachments can be found through the electronic address identified below.* Hard copies of the Group B Attachments will be mailed by request only. Note that Group B Attachments are very important and may become requirements under the Contract.

World Wide Web: <http://acquisition.jpl.nasa.gov/e2000.htm>

2. SPECIMEN SUBCONTRACT, Dated October 20, 2004

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

1.0 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS/INFORMATION

The effort to be performed will be in accordance with the Specimen Subcontract; if you choose to submit more than one proposal for this effort, each proposal must be responsive to JPL's requirements, independently complete and under separate cover. JPL reserves the right to retain all proposal information submitted in response to this RFP.

This RFP does not commit JPL or the United States Government to pay any proposal preparation and related costs incurred in the submission of your proposal. JPL reserves the right to reject all proposals.

1.1 Address and Identification for Timely Handling of Proposal

Affix a yellow adhesive label to the envelope/container containing the original proposal, with JPL's address, the name of the individual designated on the cover page of this RFP (including the mail stop), and the RFP No. MFS-2672-593438. All envelopes/containers must bear the RFP No.

1.2 Hand-Carried Proposals

Hand-carried proposals must be delivered to JPL's Visitor Control Center, 4800 Oak Grove Drive, Pasadena, Building 249 for time/date stamping, between the hours of 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday by the time and date stated on the RFP cover sheet.

1.3 Data

If the proposal contains data that is not to be disclosed for any purpose other than for proposal evaluation, you must place on the cover sheet of each proposal volume the following wording:

"Data contained in pages _____ of this proposal furnished in connection with RFP No. MFS-2672-593438 shall not be used or disclosed, except for evaluation purposes, provided that if a subcontract is awarded to this offeror as a result of or in connection with the submission of this proposal, JPL and the Government shall have the right to use or disclose this data to the extent provided in the subcontract. This restriction does not limit JPL's right to use or disclose any data obtained from another source without restriction."

1.4 Requests for Clarification/RFP Addenda

During the proposal preparation period, all requests for clarification and/or additional information, must be submitted in writing or by e-mail to the individual referenced by "Attention:" on the RFP cover page. When appropriate, responses to requests, as well as any JPL initiated changes, will be provided to all prospective proposers as addenda to the RFP.

1.5 Compliance With Export Control Laws and Regulations

In the performance of this RFP, JPL may exchange information or other technology which may be subject to the export control laws and regulations of the United States, including the International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR), 22 C.F.R. 120-130 and the Export Administration Act Regulations (EAR), 15 C.F.R. 730-774). All proposing parties agree to fully comply with all such laws and regulations in the performance of this RFP.

2.0 LATE PROPOSALS

Any proposal, portion of a proposal, or unrequested proposal revision received at JPL after the time and date specified on the cover page of this RFP will cause the entire proposal to be late. Late proposals will not be considered for award, except under any of the following circumstances:

- 2.1 JPL determines that the late receipt was due solely to a delay by the U.S. postal service for which the offeror was not responsible. Timely postmark or receipt of registered, certified mail or express mail “next-day service,” establishing the time of deposit must be evidenced.
- 2.2 JPL determines that the proposal was late due solely to mishandling by JPL after receipt at JPL, provided that the timely receipt at JPL is evidenced.
- 2.3 No acceptable proposal(s) are received as of the proposal due date(s) and time.

NOTE: If an emergency or unanticipated event interrupts normal JPL processes so that solicitation responses cannot be received by the JPL office designated for receipt by the exact time specified in the solicitation, and urgent JPL requirements preclude amendment of the solicitation closing date, the time specified for receipt of proposals will be extended to the same time of day specified in the solicitation on the first work day on which normal JPL processes resume.

3.0 SOURCE EVALUATION AND SELECTION PROCESS

The basis of source selection is predicated on the following (JPL, at its discretion, may waive minor informalities and minor irregularities in proposals received.):

- 3.1 Proposals will be evaluated in the areas of technical and management as described in the Technical/Management Proposal Instructions of the RFP. Although cost/price will not be scored, the proposed cost/price is a substantial factor in source selection and is approximately equal in importance to the combined technical and management areas. Due to current funding constraints, proposers are not to propose an amount higher than \$100,000.00. JPL plans to make source selection to multiple proposers, based on the offerors whose proposals are determined to represent the best value to JPL. JPL defines best value as the proposer having the best combination of 1) Qualifications of the Proposer and Study Team personnel and 2) The technical and management approach and the level of commitment provided within the resource limitation of \$100,000.00. The proposal evaluation process is as follows:
 - 3.1.1 Proposals are evaluated against the pre-set areas of evaluation outlined in the Technical/Management Proposal Instructions of the RFP. An analysis of the cost/price details (if applicable) is performed and proposed costs/prices are compared.
 - 3.1.2 Cost/price proposals are reviewed for mathematical accuracy, rate application, price omissions, and price reasonableness. If the Buy American Act or rent-free use of Government-furnished property applies, the cost/price will be adjusted as required for the purpose of evaluation.
 - 3.1.3 JPL may, at its discretion, conduct limited communications with one or more proposer(s) for the purpose of determining whether the proposer(s) should be included in the competitive range. Such pre-competitive range communications may be conducted to enhance JPL understanding of proposal(s) and may be used to: (i) validate the proposed cost/price; (ii) to clarify omissions, ambiguities and uncertainties in the proposal’s supplemental business/cost information; and to clarify relevant past performance information. Proposers

not considered within the competitive range are eliminated from further consideration and are so notified.

3.1.4 JPL may make source selection after the initial proposal evaluation or may conduct discussions with the proposers determined to be within the competitive range. The purpose of the discussions is to assist the evaluators in fully understanding each proposal by verifying strengths and weaknesses, discussing any omissions and ambiguities, verifying the validity of the proposed cost/price, assessing the proposed personnel and examining the proposer's capabilities for performing the work. JPL may also request cost/price proposal deltas in order to correct errors, omissions, or ambiguities in the proposal. NOTE: Only those cost/price deltas specifically requested by JPL will be accepted.

3.1.5 Upon completion of the initial evaluation findings, any discussions, and any cost/price delta(s), a final evaluation is conducted resulting in the selection of a Contractor(s) for negotiations. In performing its cost assessment related to proposals for cost reimbursement subcontract (but typically not for fixed priced), JPL may develop a "probable cost" for each proposer, which is JPL's best estimate of the cost of any contract that is most likely to result from the offeror's proposal (Note: JPL reserves the right to reject all proposals).

4.0 EXCEPTIONS TO THE GENERAL PROVISIONS (GPS) AND/OR ADDITIONAL GENERAL PROVISIONS (AGPS)

4.1 Exceptions allowed: A large number of exceptions or one or more significant exceptions to the GPs and/or AGPs may make your proposal unacceptable for evaluation. Provide a detailed explanation, including the rationale, for any exceptions you take. Proposers who submit proposals with exceptions may be selected for negotiations. However; if an agreement cannot be negotiated, your proposal may be rejected.

TECHNICAL/MANAGEMENT PROPOSAL INSTRUCTIONS

Present and organize your proposal in accordance with the following:

1.0 MANDATORY QUALIFICATION(s)

- 1.1 There are no Mandatory Qualification Criteria for this RFP.

2.0 OPTION EVALUATION

- 2.1 The Specimen Subcontract does not contain an Option Article.

3.0 TECHNICAL/MANAGEMENT PROPOSAL INSTRUCTIONS

3.1 INTRODUCTORY INSTRUCTIONS

JPL will evaluate Volume I of your proposal based on the information asked for in the below "INSTRUCTIONS," in respect to the degree to which your proposal meets the requirements/needs of the Specimen Subcontract. The degree to which the requirements/needs are met may include any number of considerations, such as the suitability of the various areas of the technical/management approach(es), the level of understanding of the requirements, the extent of insight into the technical/management challenges and their solution(s), the effectiveness of management structure, the relevancy of corporate and/or personnel experience, etc., as is appropriate for each area of evaluation.

VOLUME I - TECHNICAL/MANAGEMENT EVALUATION CRITERIA AND ORGANIZATION				
TECHNICAL/MANAGEMENT CRITERIA AND THEIR WEIGHTING		PROPOSAL ORGANIZATION		
Criteria	Weighting	No. of Copies	Maximum Page Limit* (indicate "none" or "#") *	
			Recommended	Required
TECHNICAL/MANAGEMENT CRITERIA		6	5 pages	5 pages
• Qualifications of Proposer and Study Team Personnel	500			
• Technical/Management Approach and Level of Commitment	500			
Total Score Possible:	1,000			
*If "Page Limit" is checked: Any required page limitations included in an RFP shall be <u>strictly</u> enforced. A page is each face of a piece of paper containing substantive, evaluable information; page size: 8 ½" x 11"; any drawings/photos are included (foldouts will be considered 2 or more pages); single spacing minimum; font size not less than 10; all margins ½" or greater. If "Required" page limit, no pages beyond the number specified will be evaluated. Unless requested, mockups, models, samples, hardware, or software of any kind must not be furnished and will not be considered.				

3.2 TECHNICAL/MANAGEMENT CRITERIA AND FACTORS

Any factors listed below under the criteria are not weighted for evaluation and are not listed in any order of importance.

3.2.1 Qualifications of Proposer and Study Team Personnel

This criterion is based on the degree to which the experience and skills of the team members and the experience of the organization are appropriate to the

study tasks and should assure a comprehensive and technically competent study effort.

Provide a list of key personnel, the mix of personnel, a description of relevant experience for each person, the percentage of time proposed for each person, the total amount of time committed to this effort, and total hours of all key personnel. Describe briefly the organization's related experience in conducting drilling in hostile environments, using automated drilling equipment, or space-based system trades such as those necessary in this study.

3.2.2 Technical/Management Approach and Level of Commitment

This criterion is based on the degree to which the proposed technical/management approach reflects a viable and well thought-out approach for organizing and implementing the study effort and the degree to which the proposer is committed to providing the best possible product in a timely manner.

Describe briefly the system approach for the study and the approach to a detailed concept analysis. Demonstrate the level of commitment for retention of key personnel through the term of the effort. Provide a study plan which outlines meeting and achieving the schedule objectives described in this RFP.

COST INSTRUCTIONS

This portion of the proposal instructions outlines the requirements to be followed in preparing the cost proposal.

1.0 PROPOSAL PRICING

Provide a total price for the work effort in the Specimen Subcontract.

2.0 (THIS PARAGRAPH IS INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK)

3.0 Special Tooling and Special Test Equipment

Describe each item of Special Tooling and Special Test Equipment proposed; indicate where and when each item is to be used and the extent of usage.

4.0 PROGRESS PAYMENTS

Progress payments will be allowed under this Subcontract in accordance with the Additional General Provision entitled “Progress Payments” or “Progress Payments (Small Business)” incorporated into the Specimen Subcontract.

5.0 PARTIAL PAYMENTS

Partial Payments will not be allowed under this Subcontract.

6.0 (THIS PARAGRAPH IS INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK)

7.0 SUPPLEMENTAL BUSINESS/COST INFORMATION

7.1 Financial Statement

Submit a copy of your annual financial statements for the last three years and any information regarding additional resources required to perform the proposed effort such as an established line of credit or other financial resource.

7.2 License and Royalty Information

If your proposal contains costs for royalties or licenses, indicate the amount and be ready to furnish details.

7.3 Attachments

The Section of this RFP entitled “Attachments” consists of those forms and documents containing information applicable to this RFP. Group A Attachments must be completed and attached to your cost proposal. Group B Attachments consist of forms and documents for informational purposes only and can be accessed via the electronic address provided below. Hard copies of the Group B Attachments will be mailed by request only. Note that the Group B Attachments are very important and may be required under the Subcontract.



ATTACHMENTS TO THE SOLICITATION

The following attached forms and documents are organized into two major groupings:

1. Group A must be completed and returned as part of your quotation or proposal.
2. Group B are for information purposes only in preparing your quotation/proposal.

NOTE TO PROPOSERS: Forms and documents listed below are not applicable unless the box preceding the Attachment Number is marked ☒. See: <http://acquisition.jpl.nasa.gov/groupb.htm>

GROUP A - Complete and return as part of your quotation/cost proposal, as applicable:

Attachment	Title and Form Number
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A-1	Acknowledgment (form JPL 2384)
<input type="checkbox"/> A-2	Cost Accounting Standards (form JPL 2842)
<input type="checkbox"/> A-3	Government Property Questionnaire (form JPL 0544)
<input type="checkbox"/> A-4	(RESERVED)
<input type="checkbox"/> A-5	(RESERVED)
<input type="checkbox"/> A-6	Notice of Total Small Business Set-Aside (form JPL 4022)
<input type="checkbox"/> A-7	Notice of Total Small Business Set-Aside - Modified (form JPL 4023)
<input type="checkbox"/> A-8	Acknowledgment – RSA Subcontract (form JPL 2384-8)
<input type="checkbox"/> A-9	(RESERVED)
<input type="checkbox"/> A-10	(RESERVED)
<input type="checkbox"/> A-11	(RESERVED)
<input type="checkbox"/> A-12	(RESERVED)
<input type="checkbox"/> A-13	(RESERVED)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A-14	Past Performance (form JPL 0358)
<input type="checkbox"/> A-15	Cost Element Breakdown (form JPL 0549)
<input type="checkbox"/> A-16	Determination of Lowest Overall Price - Time-and-Material Proposals (form JPL 0359)
<input type="checkbox"/> A-17	Determination of Lowest Overall Price - Labor Hour Proposals (form JPL 0363)
<input type="checkbox"/> A-18	Determination of Lowest Overall Price - Labor-Hour Proposals to JPL-Provided Rate Ranges (form JPL 0364)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A-19	Cost Elements Breakdown (Short Form) (form JPL 0549-1)

GROUP B - For information only:

Attachment	Title and Form Number
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B-1	Waiver of Rights to Inventions (form JPL 62-301)
<input type="checkbox"/> B-2	Summary Work Breakdown Structure (no form number)
<input type="checkbox"/> B-3	Notice to Offerors (form JPL 2843)
<input type="checkbox"/> B-4	Instructions for Patent Agreement for Use in Support Service Contracts (form JPL 2844) Patent Agreement (form JPL 1929)
<input type="checkbox"/> B-5	Notice of Requirement of Pre-award On Site Equal Opportunity Compliance Review (form JPL 3553)
<input type="checkbox"/> B-6	Requirements for A Subcontracting Plan (form JPL 0294)
<input type="checkbox"/> B-7	Security Requirements for a Classified Contract (form JPL 2891)
<input type="checkbox"/> B-8	Notice of Requirement for Affirmative Action to Ensure Equal Employment Opportunity(Executive Order 11246) (form JPL 2899)
<input type="checkbox"/> B-9.1	Notice to Prospective Contractors of Requirement for an Environmental Audit of the Lease Facilities (form JPL 2896)
<input type="checkbox"/> B-9.2	Notice to Prospective Contractors of Requirement for an Environmental Audit of the Lease Facilities – Alternate (form JPL 2896-1)
<input type="checkbox"/> B-10	Certificate of Current Cost or Pricing Data (form JPL 2496)
<input type="checkbox"/> B-11	Standards of Conduct and Procedures for Handling Contractor Personnel Problems, Discipline, and Separation (form JPL 4412)
<input type="checkbox"/> B-12	(RESERVED)
<input type="checkbox"/> B-13	Claims for Exceptions to Cost or Pricing Data (form JPL 2703)
<input type="checkbox"/> B-14	(RESERVED)
<input type="checkbox"/> B-15	(RESERVED)
<input type="checkbox"/> B-16	(RESERVED)
<input type="checkbox"/> B-17	JPL Contractor Safety and Health Notification (form JPL 2885)
<input type="checkbox"/> B-18	(RESERVED)
<input type="checkbox"/> B-19	Additional General Provisions – Safety and Health (If applicable, plans required before award)